

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in view of the present amendment and in light of the following discussions, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-20 are currently pending in the application. Claims 11-20 were withdrawn from further consideration. Claim 7 has been amended herewith. The changes to the claim are supported by the originally filed specification and do not introduce any new matter.

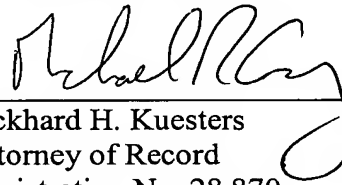
In the outstanding Office Action, Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

In response to the rejection of Claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, Claim 7 has been amended to correct typographical errors.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the above discussion, the outstanding grounds for rejection are believed to have been overcome and in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Eckhard H. Kuesters
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 28,870

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 08/03)

Michael R. Casey, Ph.D.
Registration No. 40,294